

Sinclair's corporate headquarters is my hometown. I wish that I could be proud of this. Instead, I am appalled by Sinclair's misuse and abuse of public airwaves and therefore of the public trust. Sinclair's recent order to its affiliates not to broadcast "Nightline" because it disagreed with the news content and its current decision to force its stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election are egregious testaments to Sinclair's disregard of its public responsibility.

I urge the FCC to step in NOW to work in concert with the FEC to enjoin the forced broadcast of the anti-Kerry telecast and to inform Sinclair and its stations that broadcasting the so-called documentary threatens their licenses.

Please accept this communication as my opinion that the local Sinclair stations in Baltimore - WBFF and WNUV - should not have their license renewed. I understand that the comment period ended September 1, however the FCC should re-open comments, given Sinclair's current violation of public trust so near the presidential elections.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.